



## City of Belgrade

91 E. Central Ave.  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
Phone: 406-388-3760  
Fax: 406-388-4996

**RECEIVED**

AUG 22 2016

**LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE**

August 15, 2016

Montana Environmental Quality Council  
PO Box 201704  
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Sirs:

The City of Belgrade has been awarded a HOME grant from the Montana Department of Commerce to assist the Human Resource Development Council of District IX, Inc. with the rehabilitation of Big Sky Villas, an affordable housing development in Belgrade, MT.

We request that you review the enclosed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Request for Release of Funds (RROF) and notify us in writing of any concerns or findings regarding the proposed project in relation to environmental factors. Please send comments to: Belgrade City Council, 91 East Central, Belgrade, MT 59714. The Council will review all comments received at their regular Council meeting on September 6, 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Karp", is written over a horizontal line.

Jason Karp  
Belgrade City Planning Director

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
and  
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

PUBLICATION DATE: August 16, 2016

City of Belgrade  
91 East Central  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
406-388-3760

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or before September 6, 2016, the above-named City of Belgrade will request the Montana Department of Commerce (Commerce) to release HOME funds, provided under National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, for the following project: purchase and rehabilitation of 24 units of affordable rental housing, namely Big Sky Villas located at 202 and 204 West Jefferson Avenue, Belgrade, MT, under Contract # MT-HOME-16RD-SGC-1.

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the City of Belgrade has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190).

The reasons for the decision not to prepare such a statement are as follows:

- A consolidated environmental assessment, which is on file at Belgrade City Hall, itemizes the physical environment and human population of the project area.
- The proposed action is not located within a minimum required distance of any delineated 100-year flood plain.

An Environmental Review Record documenting review of all project activities in respect to impacts on the environment has been made by the City of Belgrade. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the Belgrade City Hall at 91 East Central, Belgrade, MT 59714 and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of HOME project funds.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Belgrade to the office of the undersigned, or to on or before August 23, 2016. All such comments so received will be considered and the City of Belgrade will neither request release of funds nor take any administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

### State Release of Funds

The City of Belgrade will undertake the project described above with HOME funds provided by Commerce under National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The City of Belgrade is certifying to Commerce that Jason Karp in his official capacity as Environmental Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect on the certification is that upon approval, City of Belgrade will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the City and may use the HOME funds.

### Objections to State Release of Funds

Commerce will accept an objection to its approval only if it is on one of the following bases:

- (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the certifying officer or other officer of the applicant approved by Commerce;
- (b) that the applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process;
- (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by Commerce; or
- (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental design.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: Department of Commerce, Community Development Division, 301 S. Park Ave., P.O. Box 200523, Helena, Montana 59620-0523.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by Commerce. No objection received after September 21, 2016 will be considered by Commerce.

Jason Karp, Environmental Certifying Officer  
City of Belgrade  
August 16, 2016  
91 East Central  
Belgrade, MT 59714